ISASC

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ANTIQUE SCALE COLLECTORS

President's Newsletter

Number 41. January, 1989.

MUCH IS NEW THIS NEW YEAR.

1989 signals change for ISASC in a number of ways. EQM has a new editor, ISASC has newly-elected leadership, our membership for North America is at a new, all-time high, and even our Newsletter has a new name. Herewith, as we enter 1989, are some comments regarding these new developments.

NEW EDITOR OFF TO FLYING START.

The first EQM of 1989, enclosed, reflects the same high literary level that has characterized our publication from its beginning, and credit goes to Diana Crawforth, who has so adroitly assumed the various functions necessary to EQM's production. These include format development, copywriting, pictorial preparation, editing, and a dozen-and-one other tasks that only those who toil in publishing circles know about. We salute Diana and wish her well in what we know is a bright future for her.

NEW DIRECTORS ELECTED.

Consistent with ISASC's by-law requirements, our membership voted this past fall for a slate of seven directors to serve the three-year term from 1989 to 1991. 151 ballots were returned, of which 90% voted for the <u>entire</u> slate, a response we'd like to think expresses member confidence in ISASC leadership. Those elected, some incumbent and

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some new to office, are as follows: North American Chapter -- Bob Stein, Tod Carley, Jan Macho and William Doniger; European Chapter-- Diana Crawforth, Albert Rangeley, and Jan C. Wage. We'd like to thank our members for exercising their right of suffrage.

NEW OFFICERS, TOO.

The first official action of the new directors was to elect a slate of officers for the 1989-1991 term, and that they did. Directors Jan Macho and Bob Stein, comprising the nominating committee, submitted a slate consisting of Bob Stein, President; Diana Crawforth and Tod Carley, Vice Presidents; Jan Macho, Secretary-Treasurer, North American Chapter; and Albert Rangeley, Secretary-Treasurer, European Chapter. The seven directors unanimously elected the nominees and, thus, for the next three years, ISASC's affairs will be handled by the aforementioned officers.

NEW PLATEAU REACHED.

As we enter the new year, the member count for the North American Chapter is at an all-time high of 236, and the report from overseas is that the European contingent is holding steady at approximately 100. If growth is any indication of good health, ISASC has never been more hale and hearty.

NEW NOMENCLATURE (FINALLY).

It doesn't take us long to respond to change. When ISASC was first founded in 1976, yours truly assumed the post of Chairman and proceeded to correspond with members via the "Chairman's Newsletter." Two years later, when ISASC was incorporated and officers elected, yours truly became President. One would have thought that right then and there was the time to rename this missive the "President's Newsletter." However, it didn't happen quite that quickly. During the 10 years (and 40 issues) that followed, your perceptive(?) President continued to write his "Chairman's Newsletter." Finally, one bright day an illuminating thought struck him. Shouldn't a newsletter written by the President be designated "President's Newsletter?" But of course! No sooner had the profoundity of the thought become apparent to him (a reflection of his quick thinking),

the change was made. Now, with this issue and forever more by whomever holds the title, this communications tool shall be known as the "President's Newsletter?" Hallelujah! Finally, all is well with the world.

CONVENTION TIME APPROACHING.

By the time you read this, you should have received information about our 1989 convention in San Francisco this coming April 28-30. We can't recall a year when our members have expressed greater interest in our annual conclave, with many of them in unsolicited ways telling us they're definitely planning to attend.

Co-chairmen Dale Reed and Bill Doniger report that the program is coming together in fine fashion, that some highlights new to our convention agenda are being planned, and best of all, that Diana Crawforth will be coming from England to be our honored guest. Every year our convention gets bigger and better, and we strongly suggest that you sign up quickly for this gala event.

AND FROM THE PEN OF JAN MACHO.

Ably performing his fiscal duties these days, Jan writes to tell us that along with member dues that have been coming to us these past several months, a number of members saw fit to send a contribution to our exchequer for what they'd probably say is "the good of the cause." It's nice to receive these gifts, as much as for the expression of regard for ISASC they represent as for their monetary worth. With that in mind, our thanks to members Gary Schneider, Eugene Berman, Irvin Gendler, and William Shearer.

A FAMILY AFFAIR.

As you insert supplement #3 in your membership directory, take note of new members Ted Stein and Cheryl Clinton. It was only a matter of time (35 years, to be exact) before the scale collecting bug possessed by Bob and Margie Stein infected other members of the Stein

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family. And now it's happened. Ted Stein, Bob's younger brother, is now a full-fledged member of ISASC, and boasts of 40 or so scales. Moreover, one of Ted's daughters (he has four), Cheryl Clinton, also has been bitten by the metrology bug and covets the half dozen or so scales in her collection. A number of their scales were acquired at the recent Eaches auction (more on that later), and both Ted and Cheryl are planning to attend our upcoming convention in San Francisco.

ANYONE FOR ISLAMIC WEIGHTS?

Member Joel Malter writes to tell us that his firm is sponsoring an auction of Islamic weights this coming February 25-26. Joel is one of the highly-respected professionals in the business of antiquities, and his auctions invariably are something special. The sale will be in Los Angeles (North Hollywood) at the Beverly Garland Hotel. If you'd like a catalog ($15 U.S., $20 European), write to Joel L. Malter & Co., Inc., 16661 Ventura Blvd., Suite 518, Encino, CA 91316.

"YESTERYEAR" TALKS ABOUT ISASC.

Always appreciative of the good word being spread about us, we were particularly pleased to receive a copy of the December, 1988, issue of Yesteryear, Guide to Antiques and Collectibles, in which Chuck Thompson devoted his entire column to ISASC. Publicity of this sort never fails to generate interest in our society from scale collectors who apparently have never heard of us (could they be extra-terrestrial creatures from outer space?), invariably resulting in inquiries and new members. A copy of the article is enclosed. If you're friendly with Fourth Estate members of the antique world, you might approach them with the idea of an article on your collection. It could put your name in lights and spread the word about ISASC at the same time.

A LOSS FOR US ALL.

This past summer, Albert Eaches, age 82, of Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, passed away after a lingering illness. His loss was especially felt by many of us who knew him not only as a charter member of ISASC, but also as a personal -- and very special --friend.

From the day our Society was founded, Albert was one of our guiding lights, and from 1976 through 1980 he served as Vice Chairman and Treasurer. When ill health forced him to resign his dual post, our membership saw fit to acknowledge his efforts by naming him Director Emeritus and Honorary Life Member.

Albert collected scales for 30 years and amassed a magnificent collection numbering more than 500. His scales were proudly displayed in a room he build above his garage, appropriately titled, "The Scale Loft. A Museum of Weighing Machines." Over the years, many ISASC members came from near and far to see Albert's collection and to spend pleasant hours with him discussing their common interest.

But the Scale Loft was of interest to others besides scale collectors. Many visitors to Philadelphia and its environs who were interested in early American folklore and artifacts found their tour bus making a regular stop at the Scale Loft, where Albert took them on a "tour" of his collection, coupled with a slide presentation about the world of scales. And whenever visitors came, for whatever reason, Albert and his devoted wife, Billie, were awaiting them with open arms. We mourn Albert's passing; we will miss him.

SCALE AUCTION A POPULAR EVENT.

This past November 16, the Eaches collection of 500-plus scales was sold at auction near Albert's home and under the supervision of his widow, Billie. About 150 people attended, bidding was spirited, and it seemed that everyone left with some new acquisitions. A good number of ISASC members and spouses not only were present but were very much in the thick of things, including Emil and Ruth Cohn, Lew and Ruth Weiss, Barbra Fogler and Wynona Crossgrove, Steve and Riva-Jill Ginsberg, Lucio Marson, Gene Mahoney, Gary Batz, Barry Schnoll, Paul Duprez, Ed Adleman, Dean Terwilliger, Phil and Mona Diette, Gloria and Ralph Lipfert, Cheryl Clinton, Ted Stein and Bob Stein.

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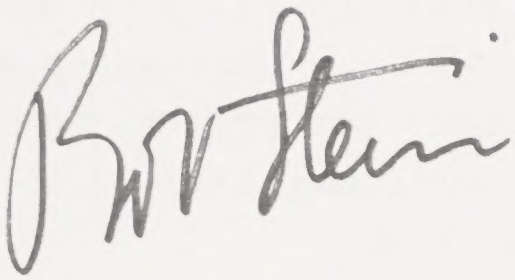
A VALUABLE REMINDER.

Enclosed is a current list of our library offerings. We can't overstate the worth of these publications and other scale-related collectibles, and can only suggest you do what so many of our members are doing. Which is to add to your library until your literary resources are second to none. Which, in turn, decidedly will enhance the enjoyment to be derived from your hobby.

AND SO...

concludes this first issue of the President's Newsletter. We wish you all good health and happy collecting in 1989, and we hope to see you all in San Francisco this coming April.

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